

2007-079
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TANGIPAHOA PARISH GOVERNMENT

P. O. BOX 215 • AMITE, LOUISIANA 70422
(985) 748-3211 FAX (985) 748-7576
WEB PAGE: www.tangipahoa.org
MAIL: mail@tangipahoa.org

ETHICS ADMINISTRATION
CAMPAIGN FINANCE
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2007 JAN 11 PM 2:56

GORDON BURGESS
PARISH PRESIDENT
MAURICE JORDON
PARISH ENGINEER
NACE GARAPOLA
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS
MARGIE ALLEN
CLERK OF COUNCIL

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 9, 2007

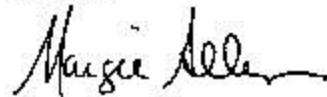
Louisiana Board of Ethics
2415 Quail Drive - Third Floor
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

To Whom It May Concern:

Attached is a "Statement of Non-Recusal" as received and recorded in the office of the Tangipahoa Parish Council-President Government, governing authority of Tangipahoa Parish, State of Louisiana, from Hon. Howard G. "Buddy" Ridgel on January 9, 2007 on the subject of "Boardwalk Apartment Development Proposal" located in T. P. Council District No. 5 of Tangipahoa Parish, State of Louisiana.

If you have any questions, please call.

Sincerely,



Margie Allen
Clerk of TPC

cc: Hon. Howard G. "Buddy" Ridgel
T. P. Councilman - District 5

COUNCIL

GUY F. BUCKLEY, JR.
DISTRICT 1
RONNIE BAMESTON
DISTRICT 6

TENNIS RICK
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MICHAEL PETITO
DISTRICT 3
CARLOS NOTARIANO
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CARLO S. BRUNO
DISTRICT 4
DEBBIE EDWARDS
DISTRICT 9

H.G. "BUDDY" RIDGEL
DISTRICT 5
BOBBY CORTES
DISTRICT 10

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ELDER ADMINISTRATION
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PARISH PRESIDENT

MAURICE JORDON
PARISH ENGINEER

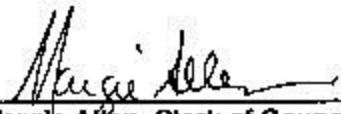
NACE GARABOLA
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

MARGIE ALLEN
CLERK OF COUNCIL

CERTIFICATION

I, Margie Allen, Clerk of Tangipahoa Parish Council of the Parish of Tangipahoa, Louisiana, do hereby certify that the attached "STATEMENT OF NON-RECUSAL" dated January 9, 2007 is a true and correct copy as received on the same date from Howard G. "Buddy" Ridgel by the Tangipahoa Parish Council-President Government.

GIVEN under my official signature and seal of office this 9th day of January, 2007.


Margie Allen, Clerk of Council
Tangipahoa Parish Council
Parish of Tangipahoa
State of Louisiana

SEAL

COUNCIL

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DISTRICT 1
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DISTRICT 5
CARLOS NOTARIANO
DISTRICT 6

CARLO S. BRUNO
DISTRICT 7
DEBBIE EDWARDS
DISTRICT 8

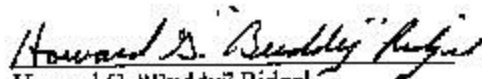
H.G. "BUDDY" RIDGEL
DISTRICT 9
BOBBY CORTIZ
DISTRICT 10

2007-079

STATEMENT OF NON-RECUSAL

PURSUANT TO LA. R.S. 42:1120 and/or other applicable law, the undersigned makes the following statement:

- (1) He is an elected member of the Tangipahoa Parish Council and also a full-time employee of the City of Hammond. This dual employment was approved by the Attorney General in opinion no. 84-900.
- (2) On January 8, 2007 a vote was taken concerning approval of a proposed apartment complex ("the Project") to be located on or near North Oak Street, just north of the City of Hammond, but outside the city limits. The proposed Project is within the undersigned's Council district.
- (3) The undersigned has no economic interest in the Project, nor in the property the Project is to be built upon.
- (4) The City of Hammond, though it has no direct interest in the Project, has indicated its opposition to the Project for traffic and other reasons, and has sent representatives to Parish Council meetings to voice its opposition to the Project. However, no elected official, appointed official, employee or anyone else connected with the City has suggested in any way that the undersigned's employment with the City will be affected in any way by his vote in any Parish matters, including his vote on the Project.
- (5) Some parties have suggested that the undersigned's employment with the City presents a conflict of interest (in light of the City's opposition to the Project) which should require his recusal from voting. The undersigned disagrees that there is such a conflict and denies that this statement is legally required, but nevertheless files this statement out of an abundance of caution. The undersigned was able to cast a vote that was fair, equitable, and in the public interest, despite the conflict perceived by some, because he has been a member of the Council for a long time and has not been pressured by his employer, the City of Hammond, in any way to vote other than in the public's interest. Also, he has adequately informed himself concerning the interest of the public and of the Project owners and has cast a vote that is fair, equitable, and in the public interest and a fulfillment of his legal duties.


Howard G. "Buddy" Ridgel
January 9, 2007